

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PRETOR 02315 110912Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /093 W

-----120617Z 007539 /14

R 110810Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7532

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2315

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJECT: MAJOR TERRORISM TRIAL TO BEGIN IN PRETORIA

REF: PRETORIA 400

1. TWELVE BLACK DEFENDANTS CHARGED WITH CONTRAVENING THE  
TERRORISM ACT AND INTERNAL SECURITY ACT APPEARED BEFORE  
JUSTICE DAVIDSON IN PRETORIA'S OLD SYNAGOGUE ON MAY 9.  
DEFENSE ARGUED FOR AND OBTAINED POSTPONEMENT OF CASE  
TO ALLOW FOR CONSULTATION AND PREPARATION OF ARGUMENT.  
AFTER STRONG OPPOSITION FROM STATE, DAVIDSON RULED TRIAL  
WOULD BEGIN JUNE 20.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PRETOR 02315 110912Z

2. ACCUSED ARE MOSIMA GABRIEL SEXWALE, 24; NALEDI TSIKI,  
21; LELE JACOB MOTAUNG, 23; SIMON SAMUEL MOHLANYANENG,  
23; ELIAS TIEHO MASINGA, 24; MARTIN MAFEFO RAMOKGADI, 67;  
JOE NZINGO GQABI, 48; PETRUS MAMPOGOANE NCHABELENG, 50;  
NELSON LETSABA DIALE, 41; MICHAEL MPANDENI NGUBENI, 42;  
JACOB GAONAKALA SEATLHOLO, 47; AND MISS PAULINE

MAMAGOTLA MOHALE, 26.

3. MAIN COUNT AGAINST ACCUSED ALLEGES THEY ARE MEMBERS OF SUPPORTERS OF AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (ANC), SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY (SACP), AND/OR UMKHENTO WE SIZWE (SPEAR OF THE NATION, MILITARY WING OF ANC) WHO CONSPIRED TO DISTRIBUTE PROPAGANDA CALLING FOR A VIOLENT OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENT, RECRUIT AND TRAIN PERSONS FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES, SECRETLY TAKE PERSONS IN AND OUT OF THE COUNTRY FOR MILITARY TRAINING, SMUGGLE WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES INTO SOUTH AFRICA, ESTABLISH ARSENALS AND HIDE-OUTS IN SOUTH AFRICA, INFILTRATE ASSOCIATIONS, AND ESTABLISH CELLS AND/OR FINANCE ANY OF AFORESAID ACTIVITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF OVERTHROWING THE GOVERNMENT.

4. THE STATE ALLEGES MORE THAN 79 CHARGES AGAINST THE 12. SOME OF MAJOR ALLEGATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS: SEXWALE ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED MILITARY TRAINING IN THE SOVIET UNION FROM DECEMBER 1975 UNTIL NOVEMBER 1976 AT WHICH TIME HE RETURNED TO SOUTH AFRICA. SEXWALE ALLEGEDLY THREW THE HAND GRENADE AT A SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE VEHICLE WHICH INJURED THE OCCUPANTS LAST NOVEMBER NEAR THE SWAZI BORDER. TSIKI AND MOTAUNG ARE ALSO CHARGED WITH UNDERGOING MILITARY TRAINING IN THE SOVIET UNION PLUS NUMEROUS ACTS OF SABOTAGE AND RECRUITING IN SOUTH AFRICA. MASINA ALLEGEDLY UNDERWENT MILITARY TRAINING IN MOZAMBIQUE, RECRUITED FOR THE ANC, AND INFILTRATED THE SOWETO STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL. RAMOKGADI ALLEGEDLY IS " A HEAD OF THE CENTRAL STRUCTURE AND/OR MAIN MACHINERY OF THE ANC IN JOHANNESBURG", RECEIVED OVER UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03     PRETOR 02315 110912Z

\$8,600 FOR ANC USE IN 1976 AND RECRUITED AND PROVIDED TRANSPORT FOR PERSONS LEAVING SOUTH AFRICA FOR MILITARY TRAINING. GQABI ALLEGEDLY WAS TRAINED IN CHINA AND WAS A HIGH OFFICIAL IN THE ANC IN JOHANNESBURG FROM JUNE , 1976 TO FEBRUARY , 1977. NCHABELENG, NGUBENI, SEATHOLO, AND MOHALE ARE CHARGED WITH PROCURING AND/OR ASSISTING ANC RECRUITS.

5. EMBOFF WAS AMONG MORE THAN 100SPECTATORS WHO PACKED OLD SYNAGOGUE MAY 9 FOR POSTPONMENT HEARING. CROWD, 95 0/0 BLACK , RAISED CLENCHED FISTS AND SHOUTED " AMANDLA NGWETHU" ( POWER IS OURS) WHEN ACCUSED ENTERED COURTROOM, ALL IN CHAINS WITH EXCEPTION OF MISS MOHALE. SPECIAL POLICE IN AND OUTSIDE COURTROOM SEARCHED HANDBAGS, PHOTOGRAPHED SPECTATORS AND MAINTAINED POLICE DOGS FOR CORWD CONTROL. EMBOFF REPORTED NO INCIDENTS BETWEEN CROWD AND POLICE.

6. COMMENT: TRIAL OF PRETORIA TWELVE IS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT UNLIKE OTHER TRIALS INVOLVING MINOR ARSON AND RIOTING, PRETORIA CASE INVOLVES ANC OFFICERS AND MEMBERS TRAINED

OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA. A DEFENSE ATTORNEY LONG INVOLVED IN  
DEFENDING POLITICAL DISSIDENTS TOLD EMBOFF HE HAS NO  
KNOWLEDGE OF A SIMILAR CASE SINCE THE TREASON TRIAL ARRESTS  
IN 1956. NELSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRIALS, TERRORISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PRETOR02315  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770167-0171  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PRETORIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770570/aaaaciew.tel  
**Line Count:** 120  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 5ab2ba96-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 PRETORIA 400  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2568201  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAJOR TERRORISM TRIAL TO BEGIN IN PRETORIA  
**TAGS:** PINT, SF, ANC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5ab2ba96-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009